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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **TERRE HAUTE COCAINE KINGPINS SENTENCED**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that CLAUDE WILEY, JR., 33, Chicago, Illinois, and TATU M. BROWN, 27, Terre Haute, Indiana were sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John Daniel Tinder. BROWN previously pled guilty to the charge of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and cocaine base. WILEY was convicted following a jury trial for conspiracy to distribute cocaine and cocaine base and possession of cocaine base with intent to distribute. WILEY was sentenced to 395 months imprisonment, to be followed by ten years of supervised release. BROWN was sentenced to 188 months imprisonment, to be followed by five years of supervised release. This case was the result of a ten month joint investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration's Metropolitan Enforcement Team and the Vigo County Drug Task Force.

Trial testimony established that WILEY established his cocaine trafficking operation in Terre Haute in 1990. The organization remained active until WILEY's arrest on August 21, 2003. During the organization's operation, WILEY procured one to two kilograms of cocaine per week from sources in Chicago every week. WILEY and his associates transported the cocaine from Chicago to Terre Haute. Beginning in approximately 1993, BROWN coordinated the distribution of the cocaine in Terre Haute. WILEY and BROWN distributed the cocaine in both powder and crack form. The Vigo County Drug Task Force (VCDTF) executed a controlled purchase of 4.5 ounces of powder cocaine from WILEY in Terre Haute on August 21, 2003. After the controlled purchase, the VCDTF executed a search warrant on WILEY's residence, located at 1469 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Terre Haute, and found two ounces of crack cocaine in his freezer. Vigo County Drug Task Force officers believe that the cocaine trafficking organization operated by WILEY and BROWN was the largest cocaine trafficking organization in the area during its period of operation.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who prosecuted the case for the government, while WILEY is serving the ten years supervised release and BROWN is serving five years supervised release imposed by Judge Tinder following their release from imprisonment, WILEY AND BROWN are subject to random searches of their persons, vehicles, and residences, and must refrain from using controlled substances.

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